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SUBJECT: Implementation of Amended Lacey Act (Thailand)

Ref: State 126654

¶1. ESTHoff delivered Reftel talking points on December 3 the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture. The ministries assigned action officers to translate and report on details of the Lacey Act amendments through the ministerial leadership. Ministry points of contact reported that they would reply to ESTHoff with any comments or concerns, but that this might take several weeks.

¶2. On December 12, Eueychai Sanitasiri, Director of Export Plant and Quarantine Service, Ministry of Agriculture, noted to ESTHff his concern over the effects (i.e., procedural burdens) of the Amendments on the Thai orchid export industry, which he said accounts for 99% of Thai plant exports to the U.S. Orchid export/import schedules must be timed precisely and predictably so that the flowers arrive at optimum bloom, Sanitasiri said. The Ministry plans to hold a meeting with orchid exporters to discuss the Amendments, and may invite State and FAS officials to brief the exporters. ACTION REQUEST: Post requests additional briefing materials on the Amendments as they become available.

¶3. The talking points were delivered to the following officials: Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives -- Somchai Charnnarongkul, Director-General; Wichar Thitiprasert, Director of Plant Varieties Protection Office. Ministry of Foreign Affairs -- Kanchana Patarachoke, Director, North America Division, Department of American and South Pacific Affairs. POCs at Post are Gary Meyer, Agricultural Counselor ([gary.meyer@fas.usda.gov](mailto:gary.meyer@fas.usda.gov)), Howell Howard ([howardhh@state.gov](mailto:howardhh@state.gov)), for regional aspects of Lacey Act amendments, and Selma Garrido ([garridos@state.gov](mailto:garridos@state.gov)) for Thailand.  
JOHN